Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E O 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EEC

SUBJ: DIRECT ELECTIONS TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1. IN AN INFREQUENT REFERENCE TO THE PLANNED DIRECT ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT OF THE EEC COUNTRIES, THE BERLINER ZEITUNG (BZ) ON FEBRUARY 10 CARRIES AN ARTICLE CONTAINING VIEWPOINTS CRITICAL OF THE DIRECT ELECTION PROCEDURE. THE ARTICLE IS ENTITLED "ATTACK ON NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY" WHICH IS TAKEN FROM A STATEMENT BY FRENCH GAULLIST MICHEL DEBRE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN WHICH HE APPARENTLY SAID HE CONSIDERS DIRECT ELECTION TO THE PARLIAMENT AS UNDERMINING FRENCH SOVEREIGNTY. OTHER COMMENT INCLUDES THAT FROM A COPENHAGEN NEWSPAPER "INFORMATION" WHICH STATES THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT, IF IT ELECTS MEMBERS DIRECTLY TO THE PROPOSED PARLIAMENT, COULD TURN THE DANISH PARLIAMENT INTO A COMMUNAL COUNCIL. IN ANOTHER COMMENT IN THE SAME

ARTICLE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PARLIAMENT IS REPORTED TO BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MONOPOLY CAPITALISM AND WEST GERMAN IMPERIALISM TO DOMINATE THE WESTERN EUROPEAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM. THE ARTICLE ALSO POINTS OUT THAT THE FOUR LEADING EEC STATES, WEST GERMANY, FRANCE, GREAT BRITIAN AND ITALY WOULD HAVE AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE 324 SEATS.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO, THE BZ HOLDS BACK FROM MENTIONING THE THEORY ISSUE OF THE DIRECT ELECTION OF WEST BERLIN REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PARLIAMENT. MOREOVER THE ARTICLE DOES NOT INCLUDE OPINION FROM WEST GERMANY ITSELF ALTHOUGH THE FRG IS CRITICIZED ALONG WITH THE US FOR ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH ECONOMIC HEGEMONY IN WESTERN EUROPE THROUGH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.POLANSKY

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